

2004 Report of Accomplishments Upper Grant Conservation District



Natural Resource Improvements in 2004 – Summary

- ❖ *Developed CRP plans for 6100 acres.*
- ❖ *Developed EQIP IWM plans for 21,411 acres.*
- ❖ *\$592,392.70 in Irrigation Water Management Cost Share to growers in Grant and Adams counties.*
- ❖ *56,000 acres implemented GWMA IWM practices to conserve soil, water, and power in Grant and Adams counties.*



Mission of the Upper Grant Conservation District

- ❖ The Upper Grant Conservation District, and all of our cooperating partners, strives every day to provide quality assistance in developing a productive, self-sufficient community that is educated, innovative, and empowered to protect our natural resources and enhance our economy.

Water Quality Implementation

- ❖ Provided Technical Assistance and Administration to contract \$592,329.70 in IWM (Irrigation Water Management) Cost Share to growers of Grant Co. and the irrigated portion of Adams Co. thru GWMA/EPA funding impacting approximately 56,000 acres.
- ❖ Establish and maintain an annual database for IWM signups.
- ❖ Developed 39 CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) plans totaling 6100 acres.
- ❖ Provided Technical Assistance to implement requirements of 53 CRP plans.
- ❖ Provided Technical Assistance for 80 EQIP (Environmental Quality Improvement Program) and 15 WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program) contracts within the NRCS Big Bend Team.
- ❖ Provide Technical Assistance and Plan development for 50 EQIP IWM plans for the Black Sands area of Grant County impacting 21,411 acres.
- ❖ Provided 292 GIS maps for growers, local field days, WSCC tour, and various government entities.
- ❖ Provided GIS assistance to Moses Lake Irrigation & Rehabilitation District.
- ❖ Participate in the Grant County GIS Users' Meetings and the Central Washington GIS Users' Meetings.
- ❖ Grant County Crop ID Project including field boundaries and irrigation types over 400 Grant County fields.
- ❖ Participated in LWG (Local Working Group) meetings to prioritize and direct funding in area.

Basic Funding

- ❖ Two UGCD Supervisors attended WACD Annual Convention.
- ❖ District Vice-Chairman Dale Wentworth chairs the Irrigated Ag. Task Force for WACD.
- ❖ Monthly Supervisor Meetings
- ❖ Annual Supervisor Elections held at Quincy Farm Chemicals, Inc. Grower Meeting in February 2004.

Local Funding – Burn Permits

- ❖ 118 Ag. Burn Permits were issued to growers of Grant Co. according to BMP Guidelines established by Dept. of Ecology Ag. Burn Task Force. (45 in the Fall 2003 – 73 in the Spring 2004)

Professional Engineering

- ❖ Utilize through MOA South Central Engineer, Mark Wasemiller, for engineering needs with livestock projects.

Dairy

- ❖ 8 Dairies Certified within the boundaries of UGCD.
- ❖ 40+ hours of continued Technical Assistance provided to UGCD Dairy Producers.
- ❖ \$1,094.25 provided for Dairy Cost Share for pond construction.

Small Farm Programs

- ❖ Advertise initial program to local stakeholders at county fairs and field days.

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- ❖ Worked with staff at Quincy Farm Chemicals, Inc. to hold annual District Elections at QFC's annual grower meeting.
- ❖ Quincy Public Library Assistant Dorothy Van Baugh and QFC Seed Division Secretary Joannie Schwint volunteered to serve as tellers for the UGCD Election on February 10, 2004.
- ❖ Washington State Potato Commission sponsored lunches for the participants and volunteers of the Regional Envirothon Competition
- ❖ Staff coordinated 14 volunteer judges for the Regional Envirothon including representation by Grant Co. Commissioner LeRoy Allison, NRCS, Fish & Wildlife, Bureau of Reclamation (current and retired), Regional Campfire Director, QFC Organics Division, and local growers.
- ❖ Regional Envirothon was hosted by Wentworth & Sons Farms. Mrs. Thelma Wentworth provided over 400 fresh baked cookies and pastries for the students and volunteers.

Information & Education

- ❖ 4,502 students and adults taught by Water on Wheels (WOW) educational program for Grant, Adams, and Franklin Co.
- ❖ Held the Regional Envirothon Competition for 15 teams from schools within Grant and Adams Counties. Two teams, Almira/Coulee/Hartline and Ritzville, attended the State Envirothon Competition at Lake Wenatchee.
- ❖ Ponderosa Pine Trees presented to 614 5th grade students at 6 schools within Grant Co. during Arbor Day Celebration/Educational Programs.

Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices

Staff Preparing Trees for Arbor Day



Ritzville Envirothon Team – Overall Winner

